

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
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R 061657Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7405
INFO AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION USNATO

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, GW, CZ
SUBJECT: HUSAK VISIT TO FRG: APRIL 10 TO 13, 1978

REFS: (A) BONN 3988; (B) BONN 3781

1. IN AN INTERVIEW ON HIS FORTHCOMING VISIT WHICH
APPEARED IN THE APRIL 6 EDITION OF THE SPD WEEKLY
VORWAERTS, CZECH GENERAL SECRETARY HUSAK FOCUSED
PRINCIPALLY ON ECONOMIC QUESTIONS. HUSAK SAID ECONOMIC
RELATIONS BETWEEN THE FRG AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA WERE
DEVELOPING SATISFACTORILY, THOUGH THERE WERE STILL
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MANY AREAS WHERE COOPERATION COULD BE INTENSIFIED.
HUSAK CALLED FOR EFFORTS TO REDUCE CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S
TRADE DEFICIT WITH THE FRG, NOTING A RECENT TENDENCY
TOWARD INCREASED PROTECTIONISM IN AREAS OF IMPORTANCE
TO CZECH EXPORTS. HE ALSO COMPLAINED ABOUT WHAT HE
TERMED THE LOW LEVEL OF COOPERATION IN JOINT EXPORTS TO
THIRD COUNTRIES AND IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND

TECHNOLOGY. HUSAK CLEARLY INDICATED THAT THESE THEMES WOULD BE A KEY FOCUS OF HIS UPCOMING VISIT, TERMING CLOSER ECONOMIC COOPERATION A MEANS OF STABILIZING THE OVERALL RELATIONSHIP.

2. ON THE POLITICAL SIDE, HUSAK SAID RELATIONS BETWEEN PRAGUE AND BONN WERE POSITIVE. HE TERMED HIS VISIT AN EXPRESSION OF PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE AND SAID BONN AND PRAGUE COULD CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE FAVORABLE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN EUROPE. HUSAK CRITICIZED POSSIBLE PLANS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF THE NEUTRON BOMB, CALLING THE WEAPON "ESPECIALLY DANGEROUS." HE CALLED UPON THE FRG TO WORK WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA TO EXPAND DETENTE FROM THE POLITICAL TO THE MILITARY ARENA.

3. HUSAK ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK AND DEPUTY PREMIER HULA, WILL ARRIVE IN BONN ON APRIL 10. HUSAK WILL MEET WITH SCHMIDT AND SCHEEL ON THE 10TH AND 11TH WHILE CHNOUPEK AND HULA HOLD PARALLEL TALKS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER AND ECONOMICS MINISTER LAMBSDORFF. HUSAK AND HIS COLLEAGUES WILL LEAVE BONN AFTER LUNCH ON APRIL 12 FOR A VISIT TO HAMBURG. THEIR MEETINGS THERE WILL BE LARGELY WITH GERMAN BUSINESS LEADERS. HUSAK AND HIS PARTY RETURN TO PRAGUE FROM HAMBURG ON APRIL 13.

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